

**Regional Water Quality Control Board  
North Coast Region**

**Executive Officer's Summary Report  
February 4, 2021**

**ITEM: 4**

**SUBJECT:** The duties and experiences of Covid-19 contact tracers (*Maggie Robinson, Doreen Kiruja, and Rhonda Raymond*)

**BOARD ACTION:** This is an information item only; no action will be taken by the Board.

**BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION:** In May 2020 as the COVID-19 pandemic worsened throughout California, the nation, and the world, Governor Newsom launched [California Connected](#), the state's comprehensive contact tracing program and public awareness campaign. As part of California Connected, public health workers from communities across the state connect with individuals who test positive for COVID-19 and work with them, and people they have been in close contact with, to ensure they have access to confidential testing, as well as medical care and other services to help prevent the spread of the virus. With a goal of recruiting, training, and employing 10,000 contact tracers in the state, the Newsom administration asked state departments to identify 5 percent of employees to be redirected to contact tracing assignments.

Doing its part, three dedicated North Coast Regional Board staff, Maggie Robinson, Doreen Kiruja, and Rhonda Raymond, volunteered to step away from their important duties protecting water quality of the North Coast to protect the public health of all Californians. Beginning in June 2020 they have been performing this critical function and are currently committed to this assignment for the remainder of the fiscal year. The purpose of this information item is to describe the duties of contact tracers and share Maggie, Doreen, and Rhonda's experiences and the stories of some for whom they have served.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** N/A This is an informational item only.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:** None